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October 6, 1992

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GUERNSEY HONORED

CHARLESTON, IL--The Board of Governors Universities system has awarded its most prestigious faculty honor, the BGU Distinguished Professor Award, to Eastern Illinois University English Professor Bruce Guernsey.

"Quality instruction delivered by faculty who hold high standards of academic excellence is a major strength of the Board of Governors Universities," said Chancellor Thomas D. Layzell.

"The Board of Governors Universities Distinguished Professor Award publicly acknowledges the educators who possess the abilities, dedication and passion that typify the best in the profession."

Only one BGU Distinguished Professorship is awarded annually to a faculty member selected from the five BGU campuses.

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Excellence in teaching was the major factor in the selection process. Research and community service were also criteria. As the winner, Guernsey receives a stipend of \$2,500 and will have his salary base increased by \$2,500. He will also receive fifty percent released time during the year in order to make presentations on a selected topic at the five Board of Governors Universities and public appearances on behalf of the Board.

A Charleston resident, Guernsey has taught English at Eastern since 1978. He has had two books of poetry published and is preparing a third. His writings have been published in many magazines, including The Atlantic and Poetry.

During his 15 years at Eastern, Guernsey has received numerous awards related to his teaching, including four Faculty Excellence Awards and two Fulbright lectureships. He also has won four Illinois Art Council literary fellowships and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Guernsey points to the English Department's visiting writer program he has coordinated, the Karamu literary magazine he edited, and the Honors Summer Camp and Partnerships for Excellence program for minority students he has taught as high points in his academic career.

Dr. Guernsey earned a baccalaureate degree from Colgate University, master's degrees from the University of Virginia and The Johns Hopkins University and a doctorate from the University of New Hampshire.

The other four candidates were: Howard Silver, Chicago State University; Jon Carlson, Governors State University; J. Fred MacDonald, Northeastern Illinois University; and John Hallwas, Western Illinois University.